

Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration

Special Notice: Fraud Alert

Contractors and and/or potential contactors are receiving fraudulent letters (often signed by an individual claiming to be a senior DOT procurement official) purporting to be issued by DOT requesting the recipient to perform some type of action involving the submission of business sensitive financial information.

Please be advised that all of these types of letters are fraudulent. **DO NOT** release any information cited to the facsimile numbers cited in these letters or enter any data to any website links that may be referenced in these letters. Should you have any questions about any such letters that you may receive please feel free to contact the PHMSA Office of Contracts and Procurement at (202) 366-6986.

Please contact the Department of Transportation, Office of the Inspector General Hotline at 1-800-424-9071 if you receive one of these letters.

The following is a list of some of the previous letter scams:

Central Contractor Registration System (CCR): These fraudulent letters request current or potential contractors to register in the DoD Central Contractor Registration System (CCR). Please be aware that DOT does not require any confidential information to be submitted to verify CCR registration and that all companies should verify personally that they are sending information to an authorized DOT official before submitting confidential company information.

The latest letters have been dated December 19th, 2005 signed by "Frank M. Orell", February 8, 2006 signed by "Randy Cohen", and April 27, 2006 signed by "Dan Jacobs, Senior Procurement Officer". **Please DO NOT complete the requested CCR worksheet that is attached to the letter and DO NOT release any information to the facsimile number cited in the letter.**

The CCR is a legitimate government system, but to register contractors should go directly through the CCR website not through a third party. There is no requirement to send information directly to DOT. For information on how to register in the CCR, please visit website www.ccr.gov.

Financial Information Release Form: These fraudulent letters request the current or prospective contractor to fill out a form containing the company's banking information and fax it to a number provided in the letter. This letter was dated November 8, 2006 signed by "Lisa Johnson", Senior Procurement Officer".